

## REMARKS

Prior to entry of this amendment, Claims 1-31 were pending in the application. By this amendment, Claims 1-3 and 10-20 are cancelled. Hence, after entry of this amendment, Claims 4-9 and 21-31 are pending in the application.

Claims 4, 6, 8, 21-23 and 27-31 are amended.

## SUMMARY OF THE REJECTIONS/OBJECTIONS

Claims 1-3, 11, 13, 15-17, 19, 20, and 29-31 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as allegedly anticipated by Sidhu et al. ("*Sidhu*"; U.S. Patent No. 6,744,759); and Claims 6 and 7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over *Sidhu* in view of Schuster et al. ("*Schuster*"; U.S. Patent No. 6,674,745).

Claims 4, 5, 8-10, 12, 14, 18, and 21-27 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim.

Claim 28 was allowed.

## THE REJECTIONS BASED ON THE PRIOR ART

Claims 4, 8 and 21-23 are rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims, as suggested in the Office Action. Hence, the objection to these claims is now moot and these claims are allowable over the cited references of record.

Claim 6 is amended to depend from allowable amended Claim 8 rather than cancelled Claim 1.

Claim 27 is amended to provide proper antecedent basis.

Claim 28 is amended to correct a clerical error.

Claims 29-31 are amended to include the allowable subject matter from the original Claim 21. Claim 21 recites a method; Claim 29 recites a computer-readable medium; and Claims 30 and 31 recite apparatuses. Hence, amended Claims 29-31 recite similar limitations as allowable amended Claim 21, but in different valid claim formats. Therefore, amended Claims 29-31 are also now allowable over the cited references of record.

#### CONCLUSION

For the reasons set forth above, it is respectfully submitted that all of the pending claims (4-9 and 21-31) are now in condition for allowance. Therefore, the issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance is believed next in order, and that action is most earnestly solicited.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is believed that such contact would further the examination of the present application.

Please charge any shortages or credit any overages to Deposit Account No. 50-1302.

Respectfully submitted,

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#### CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

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on 11/29/05 by Darci Sakamoto  
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